



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

22 December 1989

Dr. William O. Baker
Bell Laboratories
600 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974

Dear Bill:

I thought I should bring you up-to-date on the recent, positive developments with respect to the construction of our new laboratory building over the FDR Drive.

The main news is that on December 7, 1989, in the early evening, New York City's Board of Estimate approved our application. Basically, we are now in the clear, barring a remote possibility of a lawsuit by the community opponents. We are in touch with the critics who testified before the Board of Estimate, and we hope very much that we can continue to satisfy some of their concerns while moving ahead briskly and avoiding litigation. In January the Arts Commission should give final approval, and then we can be issued a building permit. Philip Sun is very much on top of the action.

Under separate cover, I am sending to you a photocopy of the detailed material officially before the Board of Estimate during its deliberations. Rod Nichols represented me on this occasion, and we had a large team including: Dave Lyons and Philip Sun; our excellent outside real estate counsel, Victor Marrero and Robert Cook of Brown and Wood; Max Abramovitz and his colleagues; our environmental impact specialists; and Marc Kaplan, our Director of Public Information. Our group did well.

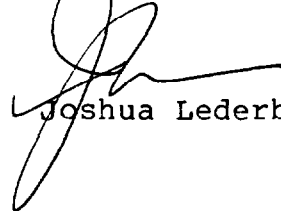
No doubt you saw the attached editorial in the New York Times on December 7, endorsing our application. This probably helped create the right ambiance for the City's approval later that day. As I may have mentioned to you,

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Victor Marrero and I met with two members of the New York Times Editorial Board a few weeks ago in order to answer questions. Evidently, (our) reason prevailed!

As always, we have appreciated your steady support for this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg

Enclosure

cc: David Rockefeller
Frederick P. Rose

David Baltimore

Marc Kaplan
David J. Lyons
Rodney W. Nichols
Philip Sun

Victor Marrero
Robert Cook